

RINGASKIDDY (CORK) IRELAND

CRUISE PORT GUIDE

CORK CITY · BLARNEY CASTLE · KINSALE · COBH · IRISH FOOD · HISTORY · SCENIC COUNTRYSIDE

HISTORY & HERITAGE · SCENIC VIEWS · FOOD & DRINK · SIGHTSEEING · SHOPPING · DAY TRIPS · OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

1 CRUISE PORT & GETTING ASHORE



- Cruise ships may berth at Ringaskiddy, Cobh or Cork City – check your assigned berth.
- If berthed at Ringaskiddy (industrial port), follow port instructions and prearrange your ship shuttle, taxi or tour. Do not expect taxis or public buses to be readily available at the gangway.
- Organized ship tours, private tours and pre-booked transport are the most reliable options.
- Allow plenty of time for your chosen excursion and to return to the ship for all-aboard.

2 CORK CITY



- Vibrant city with historic streets, churches, galleries, shops and restaurants.
- St. Fin Barre's Cathedral (entrance fee) and the picturesque city centre on the River Lee.
- Great shopping, cafés, pubs and a thriving food scene, including the English Market (see panel 3 for details).
- The city centre is compact and walkable.
- Reach by ship shuttle, pre-booked tour, taxi or other arranged transport from Ringaskiddy, Cobh or Cork City.

3 THE ENGLISH MARKET



- Cork's famous food market (open since the 1780s).
- Local produce, fresh seafood, Irish specialties, bakeries, cheeses and more.
- A great place to experience Cork's food culture and meet local producers.
- Normally open Monday to Saturday. Closed on Sundays and public holidays. Check current opening hours before your visit.
- A must-visit for food lovers!

4 BLARNEY CASTLE & GARDENS



- Famous Blarney Castle and gardens (legend says the gift of eloquence!).
- Over 60 acres of beautiful gardens, woodland and scenic walks.
- Plenty of photo opportunities.
- Climbing to kiss the Blarney Stone involves narrow, steep stairs (not ideal for mobility issues).
- Reach by organized tour, private transport or taxi from Ringaskiddy, Cobh or Cork City.

5 KINSALE



- Charming, colourful coastal town with a picturesque harbour.
- Known for fresh seafood, restaurants and cosy pubs.
- Boutiques, art galleries and unique shops.
- Beautiful waterfront views and great photo opportunities.
- Reach by organized tour, private transport or taxi from Ringaskiddy, Cobh or Cork City.

6 CHARLES FORT (KINSALE)



- 17th-century star-shaped fort with excellent coastal views.
- Great photo opportunities over Kinsale Harbour.
- Learn about Ireland's military history.
- Explore with walking paths and open spaces.
- Reach by organized tour, private transport or taxi from Ringaskiddy, Cobh or Cork City.

7 COBH (TITANIC HISTORY)



- Historic port and the Titanic's last port of call (then called Queenstown).
- St. Colman's Cathedral overlooks the harbour.
- Colourful waterfront, museums and heritage sites.
- Cobh is on Great Island across the harbour – no direct walk from Ringaskiddy.
- Reach by ship shuttle, organized tour, taxi via the Cross River Ferry or by the longer road route. Check ferry schedules and onward connections.

8 IRISH COUNTRYSIDE & VILLAGES



- Beautiful rolling hills, farms and coastal scenery.
- Charming villages and scenic drives.
- Combine with Blarney, Kinsale or Cork City for a full-day experience.
- A great way to see the real Ireland outside the city.

9 LOCAL FOOD & PUBS



- Try traditional Irish dishes such as seafood chowder, fish and chips, and soda bread.
- Enjoy a pint of Guinness in a cosy Irish pub.
- Great cafés, bakeries and local treats.
- Cork and Kinsale are known for their excellent food scene!
- A perfect part of the Irish experience.

10 GUIDED TOURS & DAY TRIPS



- Shore excursions, private drivers and group tours make it easy to see more.
- Popular options include Cork City, Blarney Castle, Kinsale, Cobh and scenic countryside tours.
- A stress-free way to make the most of your time in port.
- Choose options that suit your interests, activity level and available time.

REGIONAL OPTIONS – NOT TO SCALE / NOT A NAVIGATION MAP



GOOD TO KNOW

- Cruise ships may berth at Ringaskiddy, Cobh or Cork City – check your assigned berth.
- If at Ringaskiddy, follow port instructions and prearrange your ship shuttle, taxi or tour. Do not expect taxis or public buses to be readily available at the gangway.
- Cobh is on Great Island across the harbour – no direct walk. Use the Cross River Ferry (GLENBROOK–CARRIGALOE) with taxi or onward transport, or take the longer road route. Check ferry schedules and connections.
- The English Market is normally open Mon–Sat (closed Sundays and public holidays). Verify current hours.
- St. Fin Barre's Cathedral charges admission.
- Allow enough time to return to the ship for all-aboard.

TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

- Ship shuttle (if provided) to Cork City or Cobh (check with your cruise line).
- Pre-booked shore excursions and private tours.
- Taxis (prearrange where possible).
- Cross River Ferry GLENBROOK–CARRIGALOE (Cobh to County Cork Mainland) – check schedules and onward connections.
- Road route by taxi or coach (available from Ringaskiddy, Cobh or Cork City).
- Plan ahead and confirm current options, prices and availability.

PERFECT FOR...

Photographers · Families · Couples · History lovers · Foodies · Outdoor enthusiasts · Shoppers · Scenic travelers · Anyone who loves a good castle!

Reviewed 25 October 2026. Schedules, prices and opening hours can change – please verify current information and your ship's all-aboard time.